

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1-13 (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A racket comprising:  
a frame having a handle defining a longitudinal  
axis;

a head connected to the handle and defining a  
racket face, wherein the head ~~having~~ has parallel first  
and second transversal sides and parallel first and  
second longitudinal sides, wherein the first and second  
transversal sides and the first and second longitudinal  
sides ~~being~~ are firmly connected together at their ends  
such that each of the sides is substantially inflexible  
in relation to the other sides;

a plurality of transversal strings extending  
between the first and second longitudinal sides and  
substantially covering the racket face, wherein the  
transversal strings ~~being~~ are of substantially identical  
length, wherein the transversal strings ~~running~~ run  
essentially parallel to each other, wherein the  
transversal strings ~~being~~ are generally perpendicular to  
the longitudinal axis, and wherein at least three of the  
transversal strings ~~being~~ are strung from a first single  
string; and,

a plurality of longitudinal strings extending  
~~between the first and second transversal sides and~~  
substantially covering the racket face, wherein the  
longitudinal strings ~~being~~ are of substantially identical  
length, wherein the longitudinal strings ~~running~~ run  
essentially parallel to each other, wherein the  
longitudinal strings ~~being~~ are generally parallel to the  
longitudinal axis, and wherein at least three of the  
~~longitudinal strings being are strung from a second~~  
single string.

15. (new) The racket of claim 14 wherein the  
head and the racket face are rectangular shaped.

16. (new) The racket of claim 14 wherein at  
least a pair of the first and second transversal sides  
and the first and second longitudinal sides curve  
slightly.

17. (new) The racket of claim 16 wherein the  
curved sides have a curvature such that the string  
tension of the strings between the curved sides brings  
the curved sides back to a substantially straight and  
parallel position.

----- 18. -- (new) -- The racket of claim 14 wherein the  
distances between all intersection points of the strings  
are equal.

19. (new) The racket of claim 14 wherein the  
space between the transversal strings varies, and wherein  
the space between the longitudinal strings varies.

----- 20. (new) The racket of claim 14 wherein the  
transversal strings and the longitudinal strings are of  
unequal length, and wherein the tension and/or mass  
values of the transversal strings and the longitudinal  
strings are selected so that the vibrational frequencies  
of the transversal and longitudinal strings are equal.

21. (currently amended) A racket comprising:  
a frame having a handle defining a longitudinal  
axis;

a head connected to the handle and defining a  
racket face, wherein the head ~~having~~ has parallel first  
and second transversal sides and parallel first and  
second longitudinal sides, and wherein the first and  
second transversal sides and the first and second

longitudinal sides ~~being~~ are firmly connected together at  
~~their ends such that each of the sides is substantially~~  
inflexible in relation to the other sides;

a plurality of transversal strings extending  
between the first and second longitudinal sides and  
substantially covering the racket face, wherein the  
transversal strings ~~being~~ are of substantially identical  
length, wherein the transversal strings ~~running~~ run  
~~essentially parallel to each other, and wherein the~~  
transversal strings ~~being~~ are generally perpendicular to  
the longitudinal axis; and,

a plurality of longitudinal strings extending  
between the first and second transversal sides and  
substantially covering the racket face, wherein the  
longitudinal strings ~~being~~ are of substantially identical  
length, wherein the longitudinal strings ~~running~~ run  
essentially parallel to each other, wherein the  
longitudinal strings ~~being~~ are generally parallel to the  
longitudinal axis, and wherein at least three of the  
longitudinal strings and at least three of the  
transversal strings ~~being~~ are strung from a single  
string.

22. (new) The racket of claim 21 wherein the  
~~head and the racket face are rectangular shaped.~~

23. (new) The racket of claim 21 wherein at  
least a pair of the first and second transversal sides  
and the first and second longitudinal sides curve  
slightly.

~~24. (new) The racket of claim 23 wherein the~~  
curved sides have a curvature such that the string  
tension of the strings between the curved sides brings  
the curved sides back to a substantially straight and  
parallel position.

25. (new) The racket of claim 21 wherein the  
distances between all intersection points of the strings  
are equal.

26. (new) The racket of claim 21 wherein the  
space between the transversal strings varies, and wherein  
the space between the longitudinal strings varies.

27. (new) The racket of claim 21 wherein the  
transversal strings and the longitudinal strings are of

unequal length, and wherein the tension and/or mass  
values of the transversal strings and the longitudinal  
strings are selected so that the vibrational frequencies  
of the transversal and longitudinal strings are equal.

28. (currently amended) A racket comprising:  
a frame having a handle defining a longitudinal  
axis;

a head connected to the handle, wherein the  
head ~~having~~ has parallel first and second transversal  
sides and parallel first and second longitudinal sides,  
wherein the first and second transversal sides and the  
first and second longitudinal sides ~~having~~ has holes  
therethrough and ~~being~~ are firmly connected together at  
their ends such that each of the sides is substantially  
inflexible in relation to the other sides;

a plurality of transversal strings being strung  
through the holes in the first and second longitudinal  
sides, wherein the transversal strings ~~being~~ are of  
substantially identical length, wherein the transversal  
strings ~~running~~ run essentially parallel to each other,  
and wherein the transversal strings ~~being~~ are generally  
perpendicular to the longitudinal axis; and,

a plurality of longitudinal strings being strung through the holes in the first and second transversal sides, wherein the longitudinal strings ~~being~~ are of substantially identical length, wherein the longitudinal strings ~~running~~ run essentially parallel to each other, wherein the longitudinal strings ~~being~~ are generally parallel to the longitudinal axis, and wherein the transversal and longitudinal strings ~~being~~ are secured to the frame by at least one knot.

29. (new) The racket of claim 28 wherein the head has a racket face covered by the longitudinal and transversal strings, and wherein the head and the racket face are rectangular shaped.

30. (new) The racket of claim 28 wherein at least a pair of the first and second transversal sides and the first and second longitudinal sides curve slightly.

31. (new) The racket of claim 30 wherein the curved sides have a curvature such that the string tension of the strings between the curved sides brings

the curved sides back to a substantially straight and  
parallel position.

32. (new) The racket of claim 28 wherein the  
distances between all intersection points of the strings  
are equal.

33. (new) The racket of claim 28 wherein the  
space between the transversal strings varies, and wherein  
the space between the longitudinal strings varies.

34. (new) The racket of claim 28 wherein the  
transversal strings and the longitudinal strings are of  
unequal length, and wherein the tension and/or mass  
values of the transversal strings and the longitudinal  
strings are selected so that the vibrational frequencies  
of the transversal and longitudinal strings are equal.